

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06046 291333Z

ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9702

S E C R E T MOSCOW 06046

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: UR, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: STATE 78911

1. I CALLED ON KORNIYENKO MORNING OF MARCH 28 TO PROVIDE A READOUT ON THE BEGIN VISIT (SEPTTEL) AND TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR YOUR VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. ON THE APRIL 23-26 DATES KORNIYENKO WAS GENUINELY SURPRISED, CLAIMING THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAD PROPOSED APRIL 20-21 FOR THE TALKS AND THAT THE U.S. SIDE HAD MADE NO OBJECTION. KORNIYENKO SAID THAT OF COURSE HE WOULD TRANSMIT OUR NEW SUGGESTION BUT THAT AT THE MOMENT APRIL 24-25 WOULD BE "INCONVENIENT, VERY DIFFICULT, OR IMPOSSIBLE" BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS. I SUGGESTED THAT IN ANY EVENT KORNIYENKO DISCUSS THIS WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AND LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (SUBSEQUENTLY THE MFA OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED ME BY PHONE THAT THE PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED DATES APRIL 20-21 WERE OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED BY THE SOVIET SIDE. THE NEW DATES WHICH I HAD RAISED "DEFINITELY WILL NOT SUIT US BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS.")

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3. ON YOUR SUGGESTION FOR AGENDA AND SIDE TALKS BY HAL SAUNDERS, KORNIYENKO SAID THERE WAS NO PROBLEM. HE NOTED THAT MFA'S MIDDLE EAST EXPERT SYTENKO WAS NOT IN MOSCOW BUT WAS EXPECTED TO RETURN IN TIME FOR YOUR VISIT.

4. AT THIS POINT KOMPLEKTOV, HEAD OF THE USA DIVISION, POSED A QUESTION IN HIS INIMITABLE SARCASTIC STYLE.

WOULD YOUR PARTY, HE ASKED, BE A "HUGE" ONE AS WAS THE
CASE LAST MARCH OR A SMALL ONE SUCH AS ACCOMPANIED GROMYKO
TO WASHINGTON LAST SUMMER. I SAID MY GUESS WAS THAT
YOUR PARTY WOULD BE, AS USUAL, MODEST IN SIZE.

5. FOR REASONS WHICH I HAVE EXPLAINED IN THE PAST I
HOPE YOU WILL PLAN TO STAY AT SPASO HOUSE DURING YOUR
VISIT.TOON

SECRET

NNN

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